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Additional Manuals

Test Coordinator Manual for the CRTs in Reading, Mathematics, and Science

Test Administration Manual for the CRTs in Reading, Mathematics, and Science

Introduction

The Nevada Proficiency Examination Program NPEP is composed, in part, of criteria reference tests in grades 3-8. The purpose of this document is to aid school districts in test administration planning and training for the 2005-2006 school Measured Progress, a national testing company is Nevada's testing contractor for the administration of the State Criterion-Reference Test (CRT).

Program management staff at both the Nevada Department of Education and Measured Progress are prepared to provide assistance to school and district personnel. There is a shared responsibility among the program management staff to ensure that test administration is successful.

State Testing Requirement

According to Nevada State Law and the Federal No Child Left Behind Act, the State Board of Education is required to measure the achievement and proficiency of students relative to Nevada State content standards set by the Council to Establish Academic Standards. The Nevada Department of Education administers the CRT in reading and mathematics to students in grades 3 through 8, and science, in grades 5 and 8 to meet this requirement. Specific language in support of this testing requirement can be found in the Nevada Revised Statutes (NRS 389.550).

Tests and Time Required for Testing

- **Grade 3: Reading and Mathematics**
- **Grades 4, 6, and 7: Reading and Mathematics**
- **Grades 5 and 8: Reading and Mathematics, and Science**

The CRT in reading measures word analysis, comprehension, and interpretation of literary, informational, and functional texts. The mathematics test measures numbers and operations, algebra and patterns, measurement, geometry, statistics and data analysis. The science test measures physical science, life science, earth/space/environmental science, skills, and processes and investigations.

Both multiple choice and constructed response items are included on the CRT in grades 4 through 8. Students respond in a written format to constructed response items in each content area to allow for a more complete assessment of the standards. Grade 3 items are multiple choice only.

More information on constructed response items and sample items about the CRT's can be found in the Review Guides for Grades 3, 5, and 8 under State Assessments on the Department of Education website (www.doe.nv.gov). The 2003-2004 Practice for Nevada State Assessment Writing Tasks can also be accessed on the Nevada Department of Education website.

The grade level CRTs are used to determine student achievement levels which include: emergent/developing, approaching, meets, or exceeds the standard. Students scoring at or above the meets standard level are considered proficient. Student performance in reading and mathematics is taken into account for calculating Adequate Yearly Progress (AYP) as required by the Federal No Child Left Behind Act.

The amount of time required for testing, provided below, is intended to assist school and district personnel in planning a testing schedule. These **recommendations** provide students an opportunity to demonstrate knowledge without fatigue.

- The CRT is designed with the recommendation that students may take one **section** of a content area test per day and that testing should occur in the morning whenever feasible.
- The CRT contains two sections per content area. Students in grade 3, 4, 6, and 7 take two sections of reading and mathematics. Students in grades 5 and 8 take two sections of reading, mathematics and science.

Students Who Test and When

All students in grades 3 through 8 must take the Criterion-Reference Test, including students with disabilities and/or classified as limited English proficient (LEP). Students with an Individualized Education Plan (IEP), a Section 504 Plan, and/or a LEP classification, may receive necessary accommodations for better access and opportunity to demonstrate achievement.

The CRT is to be administered to students during School Year 2005-2006:

- **Traditional Schedule**
February 27th through April 14th
- **Washoe County Multi-Track**
February 21st through April 14th
- **Clark County Multi-Track**
April 17th through May 5th

Test Materials

School or school district personnel are to order test materials for the CRTs from Measured Progress. They can obtain information and materials from the Measured Progress website, (www.measuredprogress.org). Available information will include any materials plus all shipping and tracking information.

A test materials order for students enrolled in each CRT-tested grade is based on student enrollment figures taken from the student information system and provided to Measured Progress by the Nevada Department of Education. School or school district personnel must verify the student enrollment figures and student demographic information to ensure that pre-id labels that are to be placed on answer documents are correct.